




Nick Michael



*Harding is made up of 220 dedicated faculty members and over 6,000 students from all over the world. They have continually upheld the tradition of integrating faith, living and learning for the past 84 years. With 10 undergraduate degrees, 13 professional programs and 12 graduate and professional degrees, students are given the opportunity to excel in whatever field of study they choose.*

*Brooklyn Parker*

academics



# art/music



## what's | 5 | name?

The Reynolds Center, completed in 1993, was funded entirely by a grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation of Las Vegas. The foundation was created in honor of Reynolds, a 1927 graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, for his great achievements as a businessman. After his death in 1993, a large sum of money from his business ventures went to his foundation, which provided funds for several buildings in the U.S., including Harding's music and communication building.

Freshman Elisa Hester and sophomore Andrea Knappe play their violins during an orchestra practice on Sept. 9. The Harding University/Community Orchestra met every Monday night and performed their first real concert of the year on Dec. 8. *Nick Michael*

Freshmen interior design majors Katie Balkenbusch, Taylore Massa and Camille Lifsey sit in on the first American Society of Interior Design meeting on Sept. 1. Activities throughout the year included monthly meetings, a guest speaker, fundraisers and service projects. *Nick Michael*

2-D design, color theory and sculpture Professor Greg Clayton cuts a watermelon at the art department's watermelon social on Sept. 1. This event gave fellow art majors a chance to get together and talk about the upcoming year. *Noah Darnell*





# Stringed Ensemble

Students and community create harmony

Musical groups like Belles and Beaux, the Concert Choir and Chorus often provided entertainment on campus and represented Harding at different places around the nation and globe. Also in this mix was the Harding University/Community Orchestra, which gave students a unique opportunity to get involved with the community and escape from the demanding collegiate lifestyle by doing something they enjoyed.

The orchestra brought people together from inside and outside of the music department as well as from the community.

"The unique thing about the orchestra is that we not only have college students but also high school [students] and older adults," junior violinist Sam Strange said.

Senior Jennifer Wimberly, another violinist, also considered the communal aspect of the orchestra to be beneficial.

"Being with younger and older string players makes me feel more connected because we have a common interest and goal," Wimberly said.

The orchestra provided plenty of opportunities for people to shine.

"Typically, the fall semester concerts feature the orchestra as a string orchestra only, while the spring semester concerts feature a full orchestra," Dr. Michael Chance, director of the orchestra, said.

There were three major concerts on campus, as well as opportunities for string players to perform in the Homecoming musical orchestra.

"As a member of the orchestra, I also get the chance to perform in the musicals, which is something I love," Strange said. "I have been in the musical the past two years. It's such a different and fun experience."

The orchestra performed standard classical works for strings, opera overtures and modern compositions, as well as a few different pop tunes. It also enabled its members to do other related things, such as counting towards a lab credit for performance majors.

"Like everything that students are involved in around campus, these students often get chances to audition and perform professionally as members of various orchestras around Arkansas and surrounding areas," Chance said. "Also, many upper-level university string players teach privately through the Searcy Community School of Music."

Perhaps the most appealing aspect of the orchestra was that it provided players an escape from the anxieties of classes and other demands.

"I have a very busy schedule," Strange said, "but orchestra forces me to take time to sit down and play music. It's actually very therapeutic."

Wimberly also viewed the orchestra as a stress reliever and mental vacation.

"I kind of get in a different part of reality and become totally focused on the music and people around me," Wimberly said. "Life outside of orchestra doesn't even cross my mind in the two hours we're playing. In a way, it's a stress reliever because I'm able to clear my mind of everything and just play what I love."

The orchestra provided many different outlets for its players, but it was occasionally difficult for the group of talented musicians to remain united. Despite the sporadic disconnect, the orchestra was wholly considered to be a positive activity.

"[A big challenge is] staying connected as an orchestra as we play," Wimberly said. "We all get into our own little worlds while playing and start to forget the other string players. But really, I don't feel like we have many challenges. Everyone seems to enjoy themselves pretty well when we get together."

*Farron Martin and Rachel Klemmer*





# behavioral sciences/FCS





Seniors Rachel Kurtz and April Augsburger help out during the Child Safety Center fundraiser on Nov. 15 at Anne's Bridal and Etcetera. Social work professor Kathy Helpenstill's community practice class was involved in several services around the area. *Nick Michael*

Senior Chris Jordan plays the piano during the Child Safety Center fundraiser on Nov. 15. Jordan was often found in the Heritage lobby playing on the piano and at various other Harding events. *Nick Michael*

Family and consumer sciences honor society members freshman Deborah Hill and sophomore Anna Moore discuss eating disorders on Nov. 17. This event was facilitated by Professor of FCS Beth Wilson. *Courtesy of Beth Wilson*

# Helping

## Class reaches out to local community agencies

The social work community practice class taught by Kathy Helpenstill, adjunct instructor and contract clinical social worker specialist, participated in many different organizations in Arkansas to get its students out into the social work atmosphere. Students in the class were divided between three different places where they could learn and help out.

One such organization was Jacob's Place, a non-profit homeless shelter in Searcy.

"Jacob's Place exists to give people a second chance," senior James Arbuckle said. "It gives them that opportunity by offering free shelter, budget advice, help finding a job and a great Christian environment to raise a family."

Arbuckle heard about the shelter through other social work majors and then started working with the shelter in the fall of 2008. He organized different fund-raising events, including a motorcycle show and selling T-shirts in the student center.

"Working at Jacob's Place has given me a greater appreciation for the things I have," Arbuckle said. "The people there are not there by choice but rather circumstances."

Senior Heather Mitchell was the secretary for Jacob's Place.

"I feel called to love and serve the poor and those who are hurting because of my faith in Jesus," she said.

Mitchell contacted the director of Jacob's Place over a year-and-a-half ago after hearing about the shelter from a friend. She worked to raise funds and awareness for the shelter.

"I know that to be committed to service and advocacy of others is such a blessing," Mitchell said, "and I cannot imagine feeling more purpose anywhere else."

Students were also involved at Hope Cottage.

"Hope Cottage is a domestic violence center for women and children to get back on their feet that is safe," Helpenstill said.

Senior Jennifer Martin began working with Hope Cottage in the fall of 2008. Her class mostly worked with getting awareness out on the issue of domestic violence. They organized a Domestic Violence Awareness Event at Berryhill Park on Oct. 11. The event included a T-shirt display that held 300 shirts, each representing a woman that died in the state of Arkansas within the last 10 years from domestic violence. The event also included family activities such as snacks and face painting.

"Domestic violence is an issue we hear about but rarely choose to experience through others," Martin said. "It has allowed me to see the reality of this issue and has given me ways to act on my knowledge rather than to just keep the facts inside."

The last program that social work majors worked with was the Child Safety Center, which served as a safe haven for children who were abused or neglected. They promoted friendly care of the children and forensic investigations of child abuse and neglect.

"We offer education, awareness and prevention based [on] safety for the community," Helpenstill said. "We also provide referrals to families that need help with legal assistance, housing and counseling."

Those involved with the different programs said that their lives greatly benefitted from working with the agencies. Like Mitchell, several continued to work for or with these programs even after they were out of the class.

*Joseph Dickerson*

## what's | 5 | name?

The Ezell Center is named after Houston and Mable Ezell and houses the behavioral sciences department. Mr. and Mrs. Ezell combined their talents in an effective work for the Lord, and together their Christian work has affected the lives of people in many countries and on several continents. Houston provided distinguished service on the board of trustees of Harding College. The love and generosity of these Christian leaders is what provided this building.



# Basic Needs

## HUT prepares students for missions abroad

There were mud huts, African compounds, Latin American adobe brick houses, Appalachian shacks, Asian stilt houses, slum houses and refugee camps to choose from. Typical American houses, dorm rooms, apartments, hotels or motels were not an option. When students experienced Harding University at Tahkodah (HUT), temporarily surviving the global village was a necessity.

In 2000, Camp Tahkodah, located an hour from Searcy, gave Harding permission to use 100 acres of their land to develop a global village for students to learn how to live in different parts of the world in hopes of being more prepared for the living conditions they would face in future mission work or travels abroad.

When current director of HUT Oneal Tankersley came on board in 2002, two houses were under construction.

"Once I became the director of HUT, I designated two days a week to go out there and build, but it's hard to get a lot done when it's just you and maybe one other person," Tankersley said.

By 2003, the first group of students came for the two-week intercession course. A course was constructed called Developmental Ministries for students serious about going into the mission field or for those studying abroad at Harding University in Zambia (HIZ). In order for the students to obtain the greatest impact possible, a substantial amount of time in the global village conditions was necessary. Therefore, intercession was the best time to make that possible.

Each intercession, the students who participated in the course were taught how to cope in different living conditions. They were taught in areas such as simple energy production, water purity, health care, general healthy living and sanitation.

"Most people in the world don't have systems as well-developed as we do in America," Tankersley said. "Our students need to pay attention to how to deal with these sorts of things. We want to try and sensitize students to these issues."

Youth groups and junior high and high school students that participated at HUT stayed on one-night trips. Harding students who had an interest in health care missions stayed for one day and overnight, and summer interns stayed for three days. The intercession course was the flagship course, lasting two weeks. It was intended for those serious about missions.

In 2007, the first group of students studied abroad in Zambia through HIZ. One student from that group who also experienced HUT said she would not ever want to trade the time she spent with her group because it was such a great experience.

"I would recommend the HUT course to anyone because it made people aware of what is going on outside of their own lives, plus it taught people very valuable skills," senior Sarah Hackney said.

The course taught students different skills that were useful in different cultures and taught them appropriate technology that helped the locals find ways to use the resources around them.

"The teachers really pushed us to learn a lot while we were there," Hackney said. "They pushed us to expand our worldview, the compassion [we] have for others and our awareness of what is going on in the world around us."

Another student that experienced HUT had similar views on the time he spent there and how valuable it was to him in preparation of his summer 2009 trip to Africa.

"It has been the best class I've taken at Harding," senior Randall Gabriel said. "You learn everything from organic agriculture to appropriate technology in third world settings. They do simulations as close as possible to third world experiences, from language learning to buying food in a crooked, government-run market."

Although HUT was not always fun and easy, the students were thankful for the time they spent learning how to make an oral-rehydration solution or purify dirty water in hopes of bettering someone else's life.

Hackney said HUT accomplished its purpose for her semester abroad in preparing her for the living conditions she experienced while in Zambia.

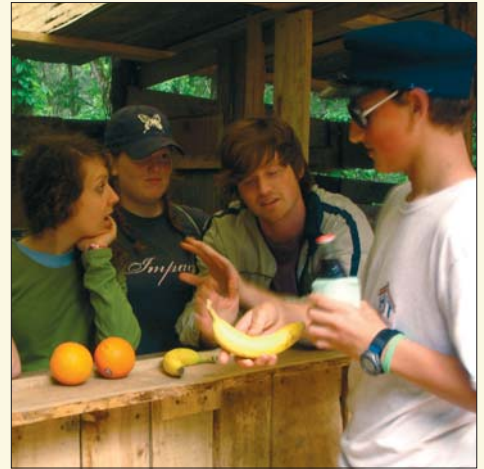
"There were several times throughout the trip when things would not go as planned and our group would say things like 'It's better than HUT!'" Hackney said.

She said the funny thing about that statement was that her group loved HUT and suggested that it always be a required course in order to attend a semester in Zambia.

Tankersley's dream was to provide students with the quality of education to be "world-class, top-notch" people who understood cross-culture dynamics in a helpful and meaningful way.

"I want the students to know the skills that would be useful to people to understand world issues," Tankersley said. "I want the students to have that understanding in their mind because they experienced it. I want them to be able to watch CNN and process the news differently because they had a taste of those things."

Allison Weaver







While at Camp Tahkodah for Spring 2008 intersession, graduate Marissa Hallee, juniors Sarah Borgeit and Thomas Hill and graduate Carol Tankersley bargain for the price of fruit May 19. HUT was an introductory experience in cross-cultural service around the world. *Courtesy of Oneal Tankersley*

During the Living World Religions class's field trip to Chicago on Nov. 15, senior Jacque Breuer talks with their Indian tour guide about the similarities and differences between religions. This class was under the direction of Dean of Bible Dr. Monte Cox. *Noah Darnell*

Junior Zach Seagle and senior Heather Mitchell help drill a well during the summer of 2008 in Togo, Africa. Student interns served the people of Togo's basic needs while fully depending on God for seven weeks out of their summer. *Courtesy of Meredith Gravatte*

what's  $\pi$  name?

The McInteer Bible Building was dedicated to Jim Bill and Betty McInteer for their exemplary life of service. For more than five decades, Jim Bill McInteer has been an integral member of the Harding family. A 1942 alumnus, he was elected to the board of trustees in 1950 and has served as secretary since 1980. He was named Distinguished Alumnus in 1964, and in 1991 he was awarded an honorary doctorate from Harding. His wife Betty was an encouragement and a source of strength during his work and ministry.



bible/HSBS



# Growing Life

## Biology class identifies new genes in plants

Students in Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Rebekah Rampey's advanced genetics class received the unique opportunity to take ownership of real scientific research and add their distinctive findings to the scientific community.

The class studied the Arabidopsis plant as a model for genetic research. According to Rampey, the plant had been used by hundreds of researchers around the country in the last 15 years to learn more about plant growth and development. The main advantage of using Arabidopsis was that it had a fast life cycle, which allowed the class to study mutations in the offspring quickly and get results faster. It also had a small genome, so it was easier to track mutations.

"Just like we have used mice in research to learn more about humans, we utilize Arabidopsis to learn more about wheat, tomatoes, etc.," Rampey said.

However, classes were not typically taught with this much emphasis on actual genetic research because laboratory work was expensive. In the fall of 2006, Rampey became a Howard Hughes Medical Institute participating faculty member alongside principal investigator, or director, Dr. Bonnie Bartel at Rice University. As a result, the Howard Hughes grant, which was very prestigious in the scientific community, gave Rampey enough funds to provide a genuine research laboratory class.

"I have redesigned the advanced genetics laboratory course [BIOL 371] at Harding to provide junior and senior biology and biochemistry and molecular biology students with an opportunity to pursue independent, open-ended research projects in a laboratory setting," Rampey said. "Each student in the course works completely on their own on a different project focused on a genetic experiment in Arabidopsis, yeast or bacteria."

Students in the class were required to spend at least four hours in the laboratory a week; however, some had to spend more time than this, depending on the particular experiment they were doing and the results they got.

"I like doing the research," senior biology major Garrett Sheumaker said. "It's fun to me to do something that has never been done quite this way before and get results from it."

The class also shed light on the scientific process and showed why it was so useful to researchers.

"I discovered that I like the scientific process, where you come up with a question and then make up an experiment to find and answer," junior Lori Wheeler, who took the class for independent study, said.

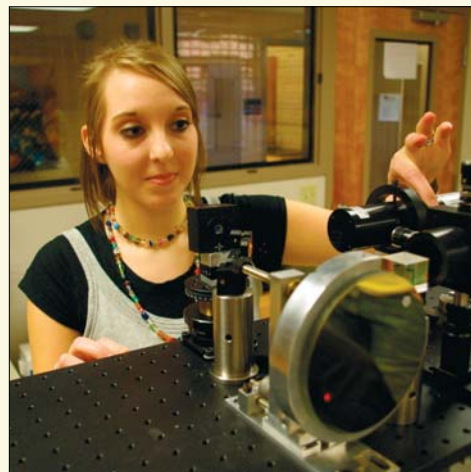
The projects that the students worked on were actual research pursuits that had never been done before.

"We are working on small details of the plant that have never been documented or proven in the lab," senior Luke Smelser said. "It is a unique piece of information that we get to add to the scientific community."

Rampey told her students on the first day of class that even if nothing worked for them the entire semester, it would teach them many valuable lessons about science and research.

"This is the one science class where you are actually performing research like you actually would in a professional lab," Smelser said. "You are working on the same kind of projects that a Ph.D. would be working on. It gives you a taste of what it would be like to do this sort of thing for a living."

*Christie Cronk and Rachel Klemmer*



Senior Katie Vaughan experiments with a laser during a lab class on Nov. 13. This physical science class was taught by chemistry professor Ed Wilson. *Nick Michael*

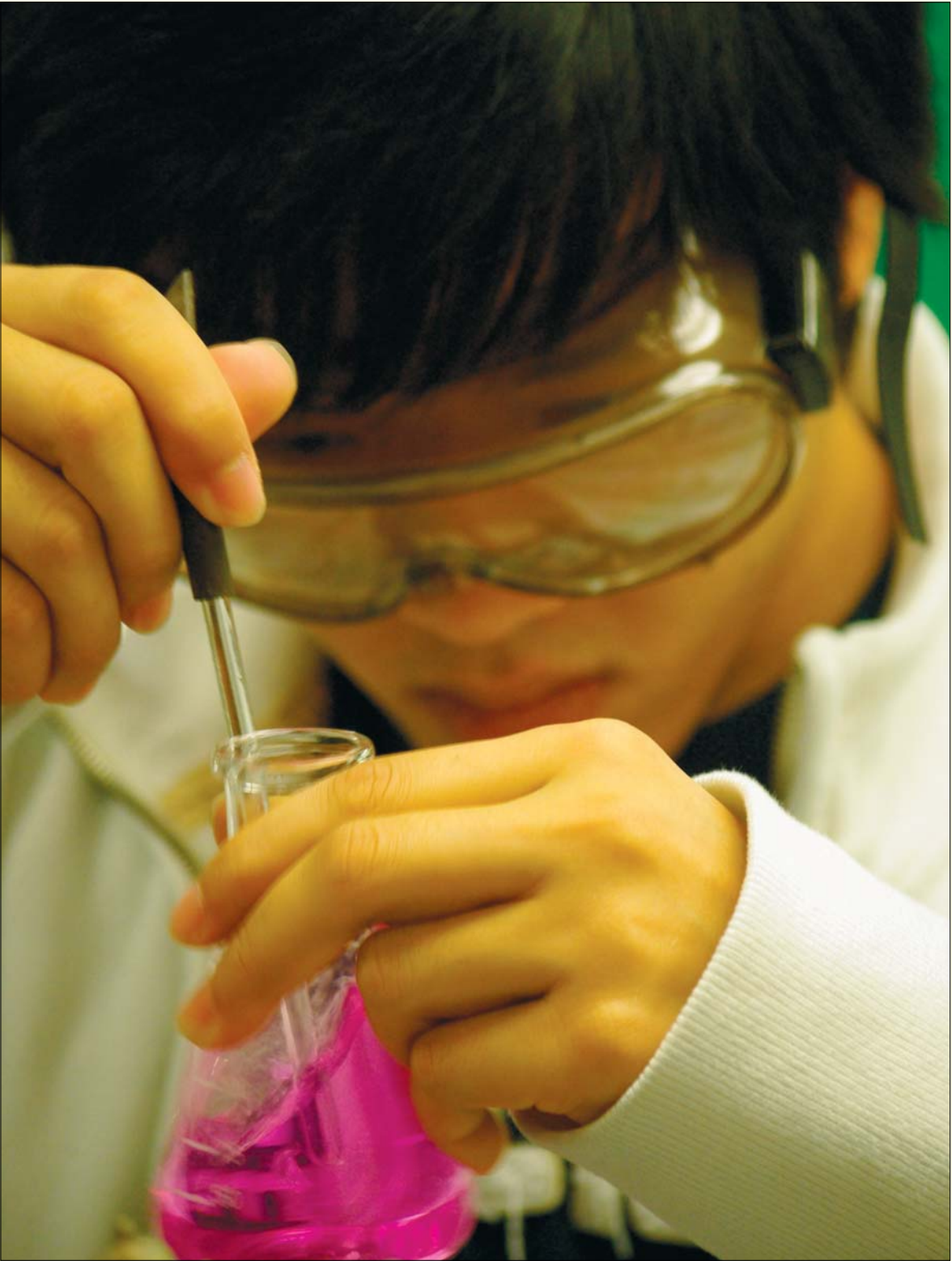
Sophomore Brett Fielder participates in an experiment during his microbiology lab on Oct. 9. Biology Professor Dr. Steve Moore's class experimented with many different chemicals throughout the year. *Nick Michael*

During a chemistry lab on Nov. 13, junior Kun Luo participates in a laboratory exercise by mixing chemicals during science professor Dr. Keith Schramm's lab class. This was a freshman level chemistry lab that met every Thursday. *Nick Michael*

## what's | 5 | name?

The Pryor-England Science and Engineering Building was named after Don and Lynn England and Dr. Joe and Bessie May Pryor. Don England's service spans four decades as a faculty member in the department of physical science, where he was the heart and soul of the university's pre-medical program. His wife, Lynn England, taught for more than a decade in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and was a worker for the Associated Women for Harding.

# biology/physical sciences





# communication



## what's | 5 | name?

The Ulrey Performing Arts Center, named for Dr. Evan Ulrey, retired chair of the communication department, was dedicated on Nov. 1. Ulrey was a 1946 graduate of Harding University and returned in 1950 as chairman of the communication department. Under his direction, a theatre major was formed, encouraging many students to perform on stage in a myriad of productions. He was named Arkansas Speech Teacher of the Year in 1986 and retired in 1992.

Sophomore Rachel Gardner takes a moment to laugh while talking on Harding's radio station, KVHU 95.3, on Sept. 15. KVHU had a 50-60 mile range, reaching a potential audience of more than 250,000 people in more than 100 towns and cities across 10 Central Arkansas counties. *Noah Darnell*

To prepare for the Homecoming musical, "Oklahoma", senior Jordan Rousseau helps work on the set in the Ulrey Performing Arts Center on Sept. 15. Countless behind-the-scenes hours were spent on stage setups and preparations each time there was a performance. *Noah Darnell*

Senior Jerry Lafavers works on a costume for the musical, "Oklahoma", on Sept. 15, in the Ulrey Performing Arts Center. The Homecoming play premiered in the Benson Auditorium on Friday, Oct. 24. *Noah Darnell*





# Always Watching

A behind the scenes look at chapel recorders

They saw you when you were sleeping; they knew when you were awake and when you were finishing your homework — in chapel. Every day, someone sat in the TV-16 studio, located in the Reynolds Center, and controlled two cameras in the Benson Auditorium, one of which scanned the audience during the 9 and 10 a.m. chapels.

Senior Joshua Morgan and junior Rachel Gardner, both electronic media production majors, were two students hired for this unusual on-campus job. Requirements that Morgan and Gardner had to meet for the position included experience with video and television production, dependability and the ability to handle all the tasks and equipment.

From their seat in the studio, the chapel recorders had a view of everyone in the auditorium.

“There are a few aisles hidden from the side camera, but other than that, we can see and zoom in on virtually everyone in chapel,” Morgan said. “So you can imagine the fun we have with that.”

Morgan finished his third year as a chapel recorder working Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Gardner began in the fall 2008 semester and worked on Tuesday and Thursday. On the days that they did not work, both Morgan and Gardner attended chapel like everyone else.

To learn the process of chapel recording, they had to watch an experienced student-worker who showed them how to run all of the equipment. Trainees were partnered up with current workers who walked them through the different procedures, explaining the equipment as they went along.

“It was all on-the-job training, essentially watching and learning with a little bit of doing until you can do it all by yourself,” Morgan said. “The goal is for them to become more comfortable performing larger tasks on their own until they are ready to do it alone.”

There was only so much to pick up from watching, though, and eventually the new chapel recorders had to learn by doing.

“I shadowed someone who had been videotaping chapel for a while and then slowly began taking over a few of the jobs,” Gardner said. “Eventually, I was left on my own and started learning from my own mistakes.”

And mistakes did happen. If there were ever any problems, the chapel recorders always tried to continue videotaping while they or their boss, production technician Mark Prior attempted to fix the problem, but if they could not, they cut to a black screen.

Before chapel began each day, the student worker turned on the equipment and checked that it worked and that the settings were correct. They created the graphics that ran along the bottom of the TV screen with the names of every person involved in leading chapel, including the speaker and song leaders. Then they set up the cameras, switcher board, hard drive and audio. In addition, because chapel could be heard live online, they also ensured that the stream from the College of Communication over the Internet worked properly.

After chapel, they burned both the 9 and 10 a.m. chapels to a DVD and programmed the 9 a.m. chapel to play on TV-16 at various times throughout the week.

“The job is essentially a one-man band,” Gardner said. “I do graphics, audio, camera, technical direct and direct all at one time. If this was the news, each of those jobs would have one person working them instead of one person doing all five.”

Although the students got paid for working in chapel — which Morgan said was his favorite part of the job — there was a lot of work involved. Chapel recorders were constantly busy and worked hard to produce a great chapel video.

“There always seems to be at least one person ruining the shot by sleeping, doing homework or not singing,” Gardner said.

So just remember, before you decide to take a nap during chapel, God is not the only one watching.

*Bethany Loftis*





# Celebration

## Computer programming celebrates 25 years

During the 2008 Homecoming weekend, many reunions took place, uniting people from near and far. Alumni and family traveled the country to become reacquainted with one another, along with getting to know Harding again. Among these reunions was one that was 25 years in the making – the reunion of the 25 past Association for Computing Machinery teams.

The ACM, a professional and academic society for computer science, had organized collegiate competitions for over 40 years. Teams of three were given problems concerning algorithms and mathematics dealing with computer programming code. These contests were timed, and whichever team finished the most problems correctly in the allotted time won. Colleges and universities from all over took part in these national and worldwide contests, often sending multiple teams.

“I really enjoy being a part of the team,” freshman Nathan Hurt said. “The programming contests are definitely a challenge. I believe they will help me in those high pressure situations when I have a short amount of time to figure them out.”

Harding’s advisor and coach for the team for the past 25 years was Dr. Steven Baber, professor of math and computer science. Baber organized the team in 1983 and was in charge of the program ever since. Baber saw a lot of success with the team since they began competing. Teams continually improved and advanced further than the previous years. The ACM team in 1998 placed 29th in the world and 9th in the U.S. and in 2000 placed 22nd in the world and 8th in the U.S. The teams that they placed under were well known universities and institutions like the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Case Western Reserve University, Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley.

Over the past 25 years, Baber enjoyed watching his students grow up and move on to their careers.

“I am [really] proud of those students that have participated on our team these past 25 years,” he said.

Members of these teams took the experiences of the contest with them as they moved on after college. Some went on to become missionaries and college professors. Others were chief operating officers, vice presidents and managers for companies like Microsoft, Symantec, Procter and Gamble and other powerhouse corporations. One member even became an assistant to the U.S. ambassador in Oman.

“The most important benefit from participating in the ACM contest these past 25 years has been the confidence that is gained by all of our students,” Baber said. “It’s not just the team members that benefit from the successes. When our students see their classmates do well against the well-known schools, they are encouraged to know that they too can compete successfully in the ‘real world’.”

Realizing that the fall of 2008 marked the 25th anniversary of the team, Baber decided it would be a good idea to hold a reunion of past and present teams. They hosted a luncheon and invited over 90 members to come and share experiences with one another. Many of the past members lived outside of Arkansas, but some were still able to come, including one from the original Harding ACM team.

“It was a great experience being able to look back at some of the older teams and realize what they had done,” senior Benny Hardage said. “When it first started, they were working on big, mainframe computers, and it is neat to see the transition from then to now.”

At the reunion, present and past members thanked Baber for starting the ACM. They expressed their thanks for his great teaching and coaching while they attended Harding. Even the new members were eager to express their thoughts on the team and how it has helped them.

“I think Dr. Baber is a great coach,” Hardage said. “He has done so well over the years, and I couldn’t ask for a better teacher.”

*Cody Waits*





Freshman Mary Beth Byrd explains her math presentation to senior Amanda Simpson, junior John Blrus and senior Courtney Oliver on Oct. 31. Math Professor Jill Davis' class gave presentations for her elementary education math class. *Nick Michael*

Data-tronics representative David Mohundro gives an introduction to Powershell in the Pryor-England Science and Engineering Building on Oct. 9. This was one of many computing seminars held in the fall. *Nick Michael*

Junior Joshua Bakke and seniors Matt Hepburn, David Farrow and B.J. Hardage compete in the computer programming team competition on Nov. 1. This team, under the direction of Dr. Steven Baber, celebrated its 25th Anniversary during Homecoming weekend. *Noah Darnell*

what's  $\pi$  name?

The Pryor-England Science and Engineering Building was named after Dr. Joe and Bessie Mae Pryor and Don and Lynn England. Dr. Joe Pryor is an icon for Christian scholarship and commitment of the faculty, and for more than two decades of that time, he served as the school's chief academic officer, first as dean and then as vice president for academic affairs. He was named the University's distinguished alumnus in 1974. Dr. Pryor served as administrator, teacher, Petit Jean adviser and sponsor to Alpha Chi and TNT social clubs.



computer science/math



# Mission Abroad

## Latin American summer campaigns

In the summer of 1976, Winfred Wright, the chair of the Spanish department, made the decision to lead a group of students to Puerto Rico. While Wright had been a missionary to France for many years, he wanted to give his Spanish-speaking students a chance to use their knowledge to reach out to local congregations in all of Latin America. This group eventually took on the title of Latin American Campaigns.

For the next several years, the Spanish department was invited to Argentina, Venezuela and many other countries. The original plan was to tour each country during one mission trip, but after the first travel to Venezuela ended up being such a success, the group decided to focus their mission work there.

Over the years, the campaign program grew and provided students with the opportunity to not only help a country and its people, but also the ability to return to Venezuela after they graduated.

"Over 20 former Latin American Campaign workers have returned to the mission field over the years," Ava Conley, chair of the Spanish department, said.

Before students could sign up for the campaign, they had to meet several requirements, such as two years of Spanish and a year of training in various evangelistic fields of study. The students also trained in teaching and personal evangelism in Spanish. While not having to claim Spanish as a major or minor, students did need a certain level of knowledge in the language in order to attend the campaign.

"We have to be able to converse and lead Bible studies with the people there, so Spanish is a must," senior Kalin Caruthers said.

Because of political turmoil in Venezuela, the Latin American Campaigns group eventually began doing mission work in Peru.

"I'm glad we did [switch] because I find the culture in Peru to be so rich and welcoming," Caruthers said.

While the students were there, they worked with churches and tried to encourage the congregation the best they could. Students passed out fliers advertising for a weeklong Bible conference, and they held small Bible studies with individuals. During all of these activities, the students realized how important being able to communicate with the people of Peru was to their mission.

"We had to use the language," Caruthers said. "We had to ask directions, study with people, talk to people in the streets and play with the youth in the community."

The students who attended these campaigns said they had pride in themselves, created a strong bond with their fellow teammates and developed a bigger love for the Latin American culture.

Conley said that although this type of campaign group was different because of the language requirements, it was still a great chance to work in the mission field.

"It's a chance for students to put their language ability to practical use and a great way for them to enjoy the fruits of evangelism," she said.

*Farron Martin and Katie Ramirez*



## what's | 3 | name?

The American Studies Building was built in 1953 and houses the English department. The Wilma Stephens Thornton Education Center was added on to this building only a few years ago in 2004. The English department's organizations include Scribblers Creative Writing Club, Harding Film Association, the classical film club, Sigma Delta, a literary honor society, and Souvenirs.

2008 graduate Alyssa Hepburn teaches children during the foreign language campaign to Peru in 2006. This was one of many trips taken by the foreign language department.

*Courtesy of Ava Conley*

Preacher Carlos Leon baptizes Darwin, a local of Caracas, in the summer of 2008 during the foreign language campaign to Venezuela. Darwin's wife and daughter were baptized on the same day.

*Courtesy of Ava Conley*

Senior Kurt Cavender, with the Souvenirs Poetry Club, performs a line from Shakespeare during the Literary Festival held on Sept. 11. The festival was held in Cone Chapel and featured the Scribblers Creative Writing Club and the Souvenirs Poetry Club. *Nick Michael*

# english/foreign languages





# history/social sciences



## what's | 5 | name?

The **Ganus Building** was built in 1951 and was dedicated to the Ganus family. Clifton L. Ganus was a graduate of Harding University and served as Harding's president from 1965–1987. While in office, he began the President's Development Council and the Associated Women for Harding (AWH). The Ganus Building was recently renovated and houses the history, social sciences and foreign language departments.

**Junior Tyler Jones** speaks about his summer internship with Shoals Law Group in Florence, Ala., on Sept. 2. Jones and many others held internships over the summer that helped prepare them for future careers. *Noah Darnell*

After a presidential debate presented by The Roosevelt Institute and Students in Free Enterprise on Oct. 21, senior Mary Patteson asks some questions to an Obama representative. This debate featured College Republicans and College Democrats from Harding. *Nick Michael*

Sophomore Kelsey Sherrod signs the guestbook at the annual history and social sciences department cookout on Nov. 1. This was held at Professors Kevin and Lori Klein's house and gave students a chance to kick back and relax. *Nick Michael*





# Experience

## Political science students as summer interns

A great way that Harding students, both past and present, prepared for their future careers was through summer internships. The summer of 2008 was no exception as a number of students left for their hometowns or somewhere new to engage in practical learning experiences in their respective fields of interest. Some internships helped reassure students that they were doing exactly what they wanted, while others realized they might be interested in a different environment.

Senior Christa Mannen, a double major in history and English, conducted her internship with Brown Brooks Publishing Group in Dallas, Texas. Mannen said she spent a lot of her time reviewing manuscripts while at the same time learning how to edit them. She also had the chance to write book reviews and participated in the joy of answering telephones, like many interns had the opportunity to do.

"I think my biggest accomplishments were the book reviews I wrote," Mannen said. "I really enjoyed considering the possibilities for a manuscript and suggesting improvements. I got to read a wide variety of both fiction and non-fiction. I also liked reviewing because it gave me a chance to think analytically and creatively."

Junior political science major Tyler Jones did his internship in Florence, Ala., for Shoals Law Group.

"After completing [Harding University Florence] in the spring, I moved back home and went through the yellow pages until I found a legal assistant position," Jones said. "I controlled information in and out of the office, organized casework and observed court proceedings. Luckily for me, the attorneys I worked for allowed me to explore my journalistic interests by recording witness statements and interviewing new clients."

Jones said that after his experience, he really did not see himself becoming a lawyer in the same capacity as those he worked for over the summer; however, he did feel it was a beneficial experience.

"A lot of people would call in a panic, and I was the first person they would talk to," Jones said. "The law is so overwhelming to them, and I got to be a part of assuring them that the lawyers are interested in them as people. Not every lawyer views their clients as file folders."

Also a history major, senior Erin Williams chose a slightly different venue in America's legal system. Williams began interning for the Kansas State District Court in Harvey County Kansas in June. While Williams said she did not shoulder much responsibility during her internship, she did get to do a great deal of observation within the court system.

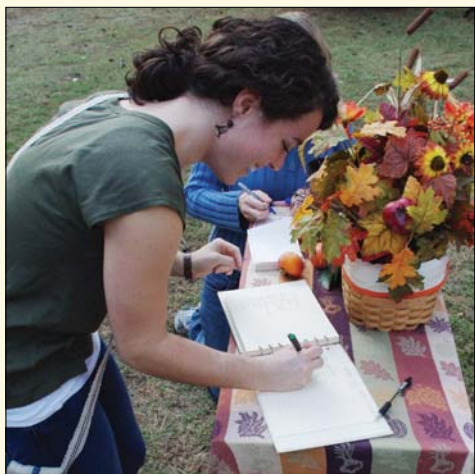
"I saw lots of cases from various types of defendants," Williams said. "Though some cases were more difficult to hear than others, all of them were interesting, and I really enjoyed learning how the law applied in all the cases."

Williams said her time at her internship helped her narrow her focus on her career path. She said another large benefit was the amount of contacts she made over the summer.

While these Harding students put in a lot of hard work and hours over the summer in 2008, they all concluded that they learned a lot from their various internships. There were many positives that came from summer internships, and benefits would continue to come throughout their careers as a result.

"All internships show you the skills and insight needed to deal with real people in your profession," Jones said. "You get to see and interact with people who live that profession every day and see how it affects them. That is invaluable information as you decide on a career path."

*Zach Welch*





kinesiology/exercise science





During his kinesiology golf class, freshman Ty Gould practices his golf swing on the driving range Sept. 23. This and several other wellness activity classes were offered, including tennis, racquetball, volleyball and swimming. *Noah Darnell*

Eating at the kinesiology department's annual cookout on Sept. 9, senior Katie Copeland grabs some chips. The cookout was held at the beginning of each school year to give students a chance to get to know each other and fellowship. *Nick Michael*

Sophomore Erica Osborn gets her finger pricked by Professor Bob Corbin during their Wellness 101 class on Sept. 18. Every semester, students in the wellness classes had the opportunity to find out their blood type. *Nick Michael*

# Staying Fit

## Wellness program promotes commitment to health

At one point or another, students used the many resources available in the Ganus Athletic Center, whether it was because they took a wellness class or because they chose to do so on their own. While it was common to see students engaged in various activities in the GAC, they were not the only group of people that took advantage of the facility's workout room, swimming pool and basketball courts.

Harding's staff and faculty were the primary intended users for the resources in the GAC, which made up the Wellness Center.

"It is a [kinesiology] program designed to improve the health of HU faculty/staff [first] and then students second," Stephen Burks, Wellness Center Coordinator, said. "Anybody who uses the GAC facilities is participating in the wellness program."

The wellness program promoted wellness and healthy lifestyles through a number of different avenues. These included sponsoring a contest called Biggest Loser, encouraging involvement in running events such as the Midsouth marathon, Little Rock Marathon, Bison Stampede and MADD Dash and offering aerobics/Pilates and circuit training classes.

Many faculty and staff wanted to live healthier lives but felt limited by time, so having the accessibility to the wellness program made reaching their health goals easier.

English professor Dr. Alice Jewell became active in the wellness program when it began 10 years ago. She was excited for the chance to be involved in aerobics again and eager to lose some weight she had gained in the last several years. Jewell participated in a class that rotated between aerobics, step, stations or Pilates.

"I swim five days a week at 5:15 a.m. with the faculty-staff women, and I do aerobics or Pilates at 5:15 p.m., three days a week when I can," Jewell said.

To carry that workout load, plus being a teacher and a mother of four, could seem daunting to some, but for Jewell, the effort to exercise consistently was worth it.

"I feel great when I get out of the pool in the morning, awake and ready for my day," Jewell said. "I don't feel so great when I finish the aerobics class, more sweaty and sore, but I know my muscles and heart need that exercise too."

Students like senior Joey Rivas also made time in their busy schedules to take advantage of the GAC's resources. Rivas, who worked out in the weight room four times a week, said having access to the GAC made it easier and more affordable to work out than going to a gym off-campus.

"I don't know that I would work out any less, but it would be a lot harder [without access to the GAC]," Rivas said. "Since the GAC is free, it's a lot easier on the budget."

The convenience of the GAC's wellness program helped make living healthy lifestyles more realistic for faculty, staff and students alike.

"I do not have the self-discipline to exercise and diet alone, so the Harding wellness program has really given me the group activities I need to stay on target," Jewell said.

Burks understood the need for lifelong success with healthy living.

"A diet should be a change in lifestyle that can be done for a long period of time," Burks said. "They have to be reasonable and realize they can't overeat on a regular basis and they need to begin some sort of exercise program. They don't have to eat rice cakes and run five miles a day to lose weight."

Burks emphasized that consistent, small steps in eating habits were really a big step in living a healthy lifestyle.

"Most people can have success simply by eating less of the food they enjoy," he said. "You may have to learn to eat some healthier food, but sharing meals at restaurants and avoiding buffets can do wonders for a waistline."

*Allison Weaver and Emily Hauptli*

what's | 3 | name?

Dr. Clifton L. Ganus Jr., a 1943 graduate and former history department chairman and vice president, served as president of the University from 1965 to 1987. Ganus had a drive for excellence by leading a plan of campus improvement and expansion, which consisted of an increase in enrollment, seven major academic buildings, four large residence halls and more. Upon his retirement, he became Harding's first chancellor, and in his honor, the board of trustees named the physical education complex after him.



# Reaching Out

## Health care leaders serve the community

During the spring of 2008, students looked to revamp a business organization with the purpose of bringing a more mission-oriented face to the club. Originally known as Future Leaders of Health Care and intended for health care management majors, The Way was formed to give students from all majors more opportunities to serve God by serving others through health care assistance. The changes to the organization's name and purpose greatly expanded the club's vision.

"We chose the name to reflect our deeper dedication to community service in public health and health care related community endeavors," Teresa Chance, program director for The Way said. "The focus of the club has changed significantly from one with a small scope of influence to one that focuses on opportunities to build community within community."

Effective in the fall 2008 semester, the organization adopted a new mission statement declaring: "As future health care leaders, our mission is to bring renewed unity, strengthened faith, encouragement to all and blessings in common through fruitful acts of service in Christ Jesus."

"We really want to be able to get several majors working together, each of us using our talents to bring good to the world around us," senior Carson Copeland said. "We want to bridge the gap between different social groups to glorify God and encourage others in the process."

One of the reasons that contributed to the switch from the HCM program to The Way was because it came under new leadership. Chance, who took over as program director, said there were some inevitable shifts in focus simply because of differences in leadership and mission style from one to another.

"I believe that community projects and involvement are an excellent way to grow experience and a professional base, but the truth of the matter is that we are always supposed to have our eyes on God and not our own personal gain," Chance said. "We wanted a name and mission and path that reminded us of our ultimate purpose."

Although its focus was on health care, The Way worked with outside organizations such as the Searcy Children's Home.

"We take a holistic approach, recognizing the emotional, physical, mental and spiritual needs of others," said senior Ryan Lambert, president of The Way.

The group hosted Searcy Children's Day on Oct. 6, which gave children from the Searcy Children's Home a chance to eat and play with college students on the front lawn.

"We put this on for students of all majors to be involved with the kids, whether it be through playing on the moon bounce or painting their faces," junior Maleah Young said.

Chance said other projects that The Way was involved in included the 3C's Community Cleanup where the students worked with the Searcy Mayor Belinda LaForce and Habitat for Humanity to organize a community cleanup day around the Searcy Carmichael Center.

Chance said she saw a big difference in the club since the new changes were implemented.

"There is a drive and passion within this group that shows sincere love for God and a sincere desire to impact lives," she said.

While The Way strived to be a blessing among the community they served, those involved also saw their own lives blessed by such opportunities.

"I love to be a part of a group of people who is not focused on the needs of themselves but puts God first and others second," Copeland said. "It's easy to be involved with a group who truly seeks to help those in need."

Lambert agreed with Copeland in that The Way gave him an opportunity to serve.

"Serving God by helping others is a way of life," Lambert said. "It causes you to forget about yourself when you're thinking of others more than yourself."

*Christie Cronk and Rachel Klemmer*





During COBA's annual cookout on Sept. 11, Professors of business David Allen and James Behel grill burgers. The College of Business Administration held a cookout to jump start the upcoming activities for the year. *Nick Michael*

**Chatting at the American Marketing Association Lawn Drive** senior Chris Miller gets his golf ball and tee from senior Lauren Fellers and Lori Sloan, assistant professor of marketing on Oct. 14 at the Log Cabin Driving Range. The golf drive raised over \$250 for the Sunshine School. *Nick Michael*

**A representative from** Windstream Communications talks with senior Mitchie Challenger and junior Ronald Msiska during the accounting department's "Meet the Firms" event on Sept. 4. The event gave students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with future employment opportunities. *Noah Darnell*

## what's name?

The J.E. and L.E. Mabee Building was named after John and June Mabee, who were married in Lamar, Mo., on April 6, 1900. They established their first domicile in Oklahoma in 1907. In 1948 they established the L.E. Mabee foundation, Inc. The benevolences of this foundation are evidenced throughout the southwestern U.S., and many edifices bear their name, one of which is the Mabee Business Building.



COBA



# In the Classroom

## Education program prepares students for future

“There is more to teaching than just getting students to remember a bunch of facts,” junior Rachel Geddie said. “It is about creating universal concepts that will be with a child for a lifetime.” This was a significant idea taught in the Department of Education. Accredited since the fifties, the teacher education program sought to equip its participants with the skills to accomplish that very thing – to go beyond teaching children facts and instead instill universal concepts.

Dr. Jan Morgan, chair of Teacher Education, was responsible for aiding students both in the process of being admitted to and staying active in the program. Consisting of around 200 people, it taught students how to become teachers and gave them the tools necessary to affect the lives of their future students.

Those who entered the teacher education program chose from three different teaching licensures: early childhood, middle level or secondary level. Students dedicated most of their time to being a student teacher during the last semester of the program. Student teaching was the capstone of their education and a major part of licensure.

The teacher education program classes were very thorough and prepared the students. Before student teaching, the students had to observe classes and pre-student teach. Senior Courtney Napierala completed her student teaching in the fall of 2008 at Central Arkansas Christian Pleasant Valley.

“I feel really good about [the] Harding program compared [to] programs with other schools,” said Napierala. “I always feel a step ahead. It’s been great.”

Senior Tiffany Allison, who did her student teaching in the spring of 2009, felt confident entering the classroom.

“I feel very comfortable and am really ready to do it,” she said. “The classes I’ve had are very thorough, and the professors show [the] good, bad and ugly of teaching.”

Napierala also felt outfitted for her student teaching.

“I had lots of practice, and the classes prepared me,” she said. “We did lots of training on how to build your own curriculum and lesson plans and how [to] teach kids what they need to know according to state standards practice.”

While the program left its students feeling equipped, they still faced challenges and pressures with the job.

“I was definitely nervous about teaching because I’m in charge of the kids,” Napierala said. “What I teach them or don’t teach them is what they’re going to know and not know.”

In addition to the preparation and experience, many students felt that one of the great things about Harding’s program was the faculty.

“The teachers here are all very passionate about what they do,” Allison said.

The teachers of the program also taught from a Christian point of view, which made a considerable difference to the students.

“The teachers pushed meeting [the] needs of the child first,” Napierala said. “If you can’t meet their basic needs, they’re never going to learn.”

The faculty of the teacher education program felt equally grateful for the chance to work with the students in the program.

“I enjoy the relationship with the students,” Morgan said. “I enjoy seeing them grow from being a student into becoming a teacher. It’s a great transformation.”

*Christie Cronk*



## what's | 5 | name?

The Construction for the Wilma Stephens Thornton Education Center began on Wednesday, July 28, 2004. This building was named after longtime educator Wilma Stephens Thornton from Sheridan, Ark. Professor Tony Finley said that she “captures the spirit and love of teaching through her 41 years of teaching and a life of learning.” Thornton retired in 1970 and has since brought many changes to the classroom, such as her current issues of school consolidation and ensuring that no child is left behind.

Two Searcy area wide teachers listen intently during the Smart Step Literacy Lab Project held on Oct. 10. This project was a rigorous 14-day staff development designed for teachers of students in grades 4-12. *Nick Michael*

During an Upward Bound Tutoring Session on Nov. 1, graduate student Erik Schramm helps a high school student with homework. Upward Bound served 55 high school students in White and Woodruff Counties and met on scheduled Saturdays throughout the year. *Noah Darnell*

Senior Tiffany Allison helps a student in Mrs. Jeannie Wilkinson’s kindergarten class at Riverside Kensett Elementary on Oct. 13. Allison was involved in the student teacher program which helped prepare students for a future career in education. *Nick Michael*



college of education



# college of nursing



## what's | 5 | name?

The Olen Hendrix Center was dedicated to Olen Hendrix on September 20, 1975. Hendrix, born in 1909, received only an 8th grade education but started his own business during the Great Depression. He made many improvements while on the State Senate and was twice a delegate to the National Democratic Convention. He served on the board of trustees of Harding University since 1964 and was conferred with an honorary doctorate of law by the university in 1989. Hendrix passed away Wednesday, August 5, 1998.

While working at the Chimala Mission Hospital in Tanzania, senior Jessica Snell draws her own blood to give to a young boy on July 30. This campaign went to Tanzania every summer and was under the direction of Professor Janis Bingim. *Courtsey of Eric Swanson*

Senior Gwendolyn Scott draws fellow senior Sweta Lukhi's blood during their community nursing class on Sept. 26. This class was practicing for a wellness screening they participated in the following week. *Courtsey of Sweta Lukhi*

Senior Laura Reeder cares for a woman while on the Gutamala health care mission during the spring 2008 semester. This was one of the many health care mission campaigns that occurred through the nursing department. *Courtsey of Hannah Buzhardt*





# Across the Ocean

## Health care missions around the world

It was always one thing to learn something in the classroom and quite another to experience it first hand. Students involved in one of Harding's longstanding mission services, the Health Care Missions program, were able to go and serve both abroad and in the U.S. while practicing first hand the skills they attained at Harding.

The idea for the Health Care Missions program started in 1975. The program's first trip was to Nigeria, Africa, in the summer of 1977. The group went to provide a place for the African people in the area to come for medical attention, some walking fifty to one hundred miles to receive care.

"[The purpose is] to fulfill the mission and example that Christ gave us — the commission to serve people that are hurting," Associate Professor of Nursing Jerry Myhan said. "Our goal is to instill in students' lives the vision of serving after they graduate, either in a foreign country or here in the United States."

A member on the Health Missions committee, Myhan stepped in to take the place of Janice Bingham, associate professor of nursing, as the Health Missions Coordinator while she was abroad at Harding University in Zambia (HIZ) in the fall 2008 semester.

The program concentrated on areas around Africa but also took students to other places like Haiti, Guatemala and the West Indies. The domestic missions side was headed by Assistant Professor of Nursing Karen Kelley, who mainly worked with groups in Arkansas helping students serve locally so that they would feel equipped to help in the future no matter where they went.

Senior Jessica Snell traveled to Tanzania, Africa, with the nursing department in June of 2008. She brought glowing reports back from her time abroad.

"I absolutely loved the people I met and the experience I had, and I would do it again in a second," Snell said. "It gave me practice in nursing skills that I will require on the job, a behind-the-scenes look at how to care for patients in a cost-effective manner and above all, a greater awareness of people's spiritual and psychological needs in times of crisis and illness."

While in Tanzania, Snell experienced everything from pediatrics, labor and delivery and male surgical procedures to helping host a seminar on purity where female Harding students spoke to over 100 women there.

"This trip was one of the best learning experiences I have had in health care," she said. "This opportunity prepared me in several ways for my future career."

Many people in the U.S. needed care as well. To meet these needs, Kelley headed up the domestic side of the program at Harding. She was involved in sending groups to help at the Christian Health Ministry, a health clinic in Searcy that was operated by the Downtown church of Christ and River City Ministries in North Little Rock.

"We need to serve wherever we can," Kelley said. "There are people with deep needs right here in the states, too."

With such an enormous impact on students, teachers and those being cared for, everyone involved seemed to benefit from the program's work.

"It's a win-win situation," Dr. Cathie Shultz, dean of the College of Nursing, said. "We are here to provide both hands-on care as well as spiritual care."

*Joseph Dickerson*





# graduate programs



# New Program

## Physician Assistant program offers students unique opportunity



PA graduate students Jayme Robertson and Sarah Spear work with health and science professor Dr. Philip Tobin on a simulation exercise on Jan. 21. They practiced tying off a vein inside the abdominal cavity in a surgical environment. *Nick Michael*

Pharmacy professor Dr. Bill Yates puts a coat on Pharmacy graduate student Pamela Obah during the White Coat Ceremony on Aug. 22. The College of Pharmacy accepted students into its inaugural class in the fall of 2008. *Noah Darnell*

Senior Betsy Carr talks with a representative from Abilene Christian University's graduate of theology program on Sept. 19. Universities from around the country came to Harding to recruit students into their graduate programs. *Jeff Montgomery*

Outfitted in the new Center for Health and Sciences building this past fall, students and faculty of the Physician Assistant program launched the new program even before they had a building to call their own. Harding's first PA class began June 6, 2005, and was the first PA program in the state of Arkansas. In many ways, students saw the youth of the program as both a positive and a negative.

"Being part of a program that is so young has its ups and downs," graduate student David Moore said. "In one sense, we as a class get to help make a lot of decisions with the faculty. On the other hand, sometimes it would be nice not to have to deal with the program's learning years and just get down to business."

As clinical director of the PA program, Gary Hill said he loved being a part of the young program. He enjoyed the adventure of starting something completely new.

"I feel very excited and honored to have the opportunity to be among the first faculty of the Harding PA program," Hill said. "It has been a challenge for all our faculty [to develop] the PA program from scratch, but it is also very exciting and rewarding to develop this program the way we want, within the guidelines set by our accrediting organization."

Dr. Michael Murphy, PA program director, had been with the program since its beginning. He came to Harding to help start the program after practicing family medicine. Murphy said the goal of the program was to get students a job as a physician assistant after graduation. It was a professional program, not a graduate program. The faculty strove to teach the students everything they needed to know to enter the world as a PA.

"One of the interesting things about the PA program is that the class comes in as a cohort," Murphy said. "They go through all the same classes together each semester."

Students in the PA program felt that they received the best training they could get.

"I feel extremely prepared for life as a PA," Moore said. "After the first year of solid book work and testing, there are a lot of doubts and questions, but when you get out to your rotation, things really start clicking. You finally get to put faces to all the items you spent hours and hours studying."

One of the highlights for faculty and students of Harding's PA program was the Christian atmosphere.

"I love working with and teaching these Christian students who are so eager to learn," Hill said. "They are so willing to do what they can to help others. It is also encouraging to me to work with a group of people who are all Christians."

Graduate student Kendyl Washburn agreed that the environment was unique to Harding's program.

"The values of Harding's PA school and the wonderful faculty that exhibited these values was the big selling point for me," she said. "I believe there is so much value in being trained by teachers who have lived out their Christian faith in the medical field."

The workload for PA students was very demanding. They had class from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Fridays, year-round. Through all of the hard work, the PA students learned to work together to get through it all.

"It becomes like having a big family around here," Murphy said.

While the initial work could be stressful and overwhelming, students looked forward to the time when they could apply what they were learning in the classroom to a real life setting.

"PA school is hard [with] so much information coming at you at one time, but I have loved my experience so far and would not trade it," Washburn said. "I am blessed to be a part of a wonderful program and around such good people on a daily basis. I love all that I am learning and cannot wait for the clinical year when I can use the skills and knowledge that I have learned to help others."

*Bethany Loftis*

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Harding University's new Center for Health Sciences was dedicated on October 24, 2008. Construction of the building began in July 2007 and was finished within a year. The ground floor houses an administrative suite, the COP-PA Kettle Café, a student lounge and laboratory and examination rooms. Faculty offices, classrooms and a specialized library are on the second floor. The first class of 16 Physician Assistant students graduated in July 2007, and the College of Pharmacy accepted 61 students into its inaugural class in the fall of 2008.



# Film Festival

A student's dream becomes reality

Helping the film community of Harding University emerge out of the shadows had been a dream of junior Tyler Jones since he arrived at Harding in the spring of 2007. With the help of some friends and faculty, Jones made this dream a reality in the fall of 2008 when he organized the first Exit 45 Film Festival. The film festival, which was sponsored by the Campus Activities Board and the Honors College, provided students with a unique creative outlet. The event was held on Nov. 15, and hosted over 300 students, family members and faculty.

Jones, a documentary filmmaker, who was also working on a project for the summer of 2009 in East Africa, said his idea started to materialize in the spring of 2008 when he got encouraging responses from professors in the Honors College.

"The idea for a student film festival took shape while I was at [Harding University in Florence] last spring, and that's where I received the positive feedback from Dr. Dennis Organ and Dr. Jeff Hopper," Jones said. "The festival would not have been as successful without Dr. Hopper's support for student film on campus."

Jones was also able to employ the help of three celebrity judges for the event. Judges included Patrick Cone, a documentary filmmaker in Dallas, founder of C1 Entertainment and 2004 graduate of Harding, Jill Tabor, a screenwriter in Los Angeles, and Philip Martin, a film critic for the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

Senior Michael Brooker, a student filmmaker who entered a serious piece entitled "Life:: Lemonade," won both "Best Film" and "Best Director." The film was about how a baby-sitter's idea to set up a lemonade stand brought a woman unexpected encouragement for fifty cents. Brooker explained that he usually created films of a more comic nature and that this was his first film doing something more serious.

"I didn't really go into this expecting to win anything," Brooker said. "It was more of a personal challenge to try and craft a story. I've done movies before, but none of them have really been of a serious nature."

The top four winners of the festival went home with cash prizes provided by the Honors College, and they also took home an antique camera trophy.

Brooker said he looked forward to participating in next year's film festival.

Dean of the Honors College Dr. Jeff Hopper was unable to attend the event; however, he was able to view the films and said he was extremely pleased with the success of Exit 45.

"Filmmaking is a difficult and technical creative process, and it's great that so many students were involved in that process," Hopper said.

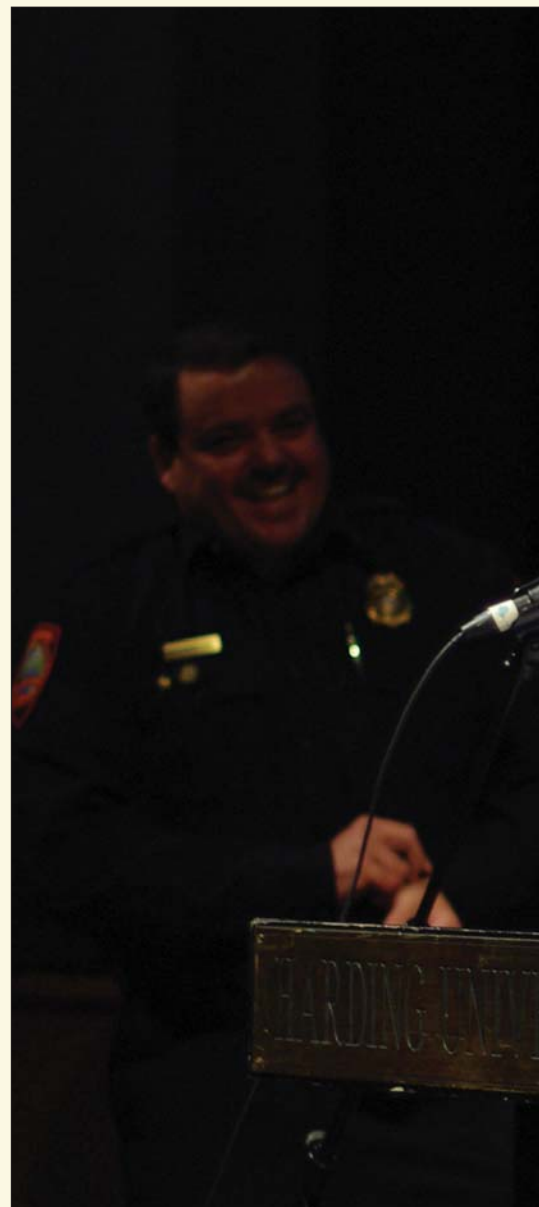
Hopper also said an event such as Exit 45 provided a great educational opportunity for all those involved, offering students a hands-on venue to display their talents.

"Tyler and those who worked with him have a jump start on their futures," Hopper said. "This experience is in my opinion far better than a grade in a course, the course itself or a high test score."

Jones said he was not sure how much he would be involved in next year's film festival. However he concluded that the success and participation in this year's Exit 45 Film Festival would ensure that it continued in following years.

"I would love to create a platform for collaboration in regards to film here because there isn't a film program at Harding," Jones said. "Obviously I love movies because they are entertaining, but I think that film can reach a point to where it can lead to social change."

*Zach Welch, some information provided by The Bison*





Senior Joanna Benskin eats chili during the Honors College chili day on Sept. 16. Every Tuesday the Honors House provided a chili lunch for honors students to eat and fellowship with one another. *Nick Michael*

During the Exit 45 Film Festival on Nov. 15, sophomore Kelsey Sherrod and Samford student Maribeth Browning tally the Bison Audience award votes. The festival housed over 300 students, family members and faculty. *Nick Michael*

Seniors Josh Jaros and Luke Watson receive the award for best editing during the Exit 45 Film Festival on Nov. 15. The event was sponsored by the Campus Activities Board and the Honors College and featured three celebrity judges. *Nick Michael*

what's | ̐̐̐ | name?

The L.C. Sears Honors Center was built in 1950 and served as a private residence until purchased by Harding. It housed female students for a time and was later used for storage. The house was completely remodeled inside and out during the spring of 2005 and now houses offices for the Honors College, Honors Symposium and International Programs. The facility was named in honor of L.C. Sears and his legacy. He served as the first academic dean for Harding and was an accomplished professor, author, administrator and Shakespearean academic scholar.



honors college



# Inauguration Day

## McNair Scholars take a trip to Washington, D.C.

On the afternoon of Jan. 20, students gathered around TV sets all over campus to watch the historical inauguration of President Barack Obama. One group of students, however, got to see the spectacle at a much closer distance – only a football field's length away from where the ceremony took place in Washington, D.C.

A group of nine students from the McNair Scholars Program, one of eight Federal TRIO Programs designed to motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds, and director Dr. Linda Thompson endured a 24-hour bus ride to Washington, D.C. to witness the inauguration festivities firsthand.

A week before Thanksgiving, the executive director of the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission notified Dr. Jim Carr, executive vice president, that they had tickets to offer Harding if any students were interested in going to the inauguration.

"Dr. Carr immediately thought of the McNair Scholars Program and called our office," Thompson said. "I wasn't at all sure we could afford to send our students. Multiplied by the number of students that would likely want to go, it was considerably more than my budget could handle."

Thompson opened the opportunity to all of the scholars, but there was a possibility that it would cost \$500, \$50 of which had to be paid before Thanksgiving break. At that point, nine of the 27 scholars decided to attend. Thompson called various offices on campus to see if there was any money available to help subsidize the trip. Dr. David Collins, assistant vice president and dean of student life, committed \$2,000 to the trip, and the McNair office provided the remainder.

"The trip only ended up costing the scholars \$50 plus food," junior Elizabeth Davis said. "Since only nine people signed up, they covered the rest of the cost for us."

After arriving in D.C. on the evening of Jan. 18, the students spent Monday, Jan. 19, seeing the Washington National Cathedral, the Capitol, the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial and eating at Hard Rock Café. While at the Capitol, the group met with Arkansas Senator Blanche Lincoln, who gave them tickets to get into one of the four gated standing areas.

On the day of the inauguration, the group ventured into the city at 4 a.m. and walked three miles to the gate they had tickets for.

"When the gates opened, there were mad rushes of people to get into the gates," Davis said. "It was crazy and the most people I have ever seen."

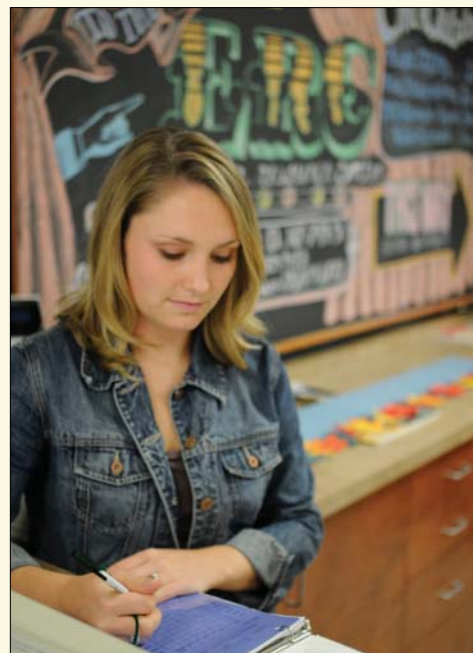
Junior Myles Thomas and senior Jeremy Townsend found a patch of open space in the gated area, and the group inched closer and closer to the stage.

"We were about 100 yards away from Obama," junior Jacob Schroeder said. "We were the first 10 of two million people to see [him] as president. We were so excited to experience this event."

Thompson noted that though the group would remember how cold and tired they were and how much their feet hurt, they would always remember that they were present for the swearing-in of the nation's first African-American president. Davis agreed that the trip was an unforgettable experience.

"It was so inspiring to be with that many fellow Americans to see something that will be written in history books," Davis said. "There were people everywhere, and you could just feel the positive energy as President Obama gave his speech. People really clung to what he was saying, and everyone was just filled with such happiness."

*Rachel Klemmer*



## what's | 3 | name?

The Education Resource Center is a media center/library located on the third floor of the Wilma-Stephens Thornton Education Building and contains a wealth of teacher resource materials, books, kits, DVDs and more. The center is designed primarily for use by education majors, faculty and staff in the College of Education at Harding but welcomes and encourages all faculty, staff and students to take advantage of the useful facility.

Sophomore Ashley Moore listens attentively during an Academic Resource Center seminar on Nov. 18. This was one of six learning enhancement seminars that was presented by the Academic Resources Center during November. *Nick Michael*

Senior Amanda Nowlin works the front desk at the Education Resource Center on Nov. 5. The resource center was located on the third floor of the Thornton Education Building and was open to any Harding students and faculty. *Noah Darnell*

McNair Scholars juniors Rachelle Martindale, Jacob Schroeder, Myles Thomas, Elizabeth Davis and Danielle Baker, seniors Jeremy Townsend and Rainisha Eady, graduates Shae Worley and Kubari Eady and director Dr. Linda Thompson pose in front of the Capitol on Jan. 20. This was the only Harding-sponsored group that attended the Inauguration in Washington, D.C.  
*Courtesy of Jacob Schroeder*



## academic services